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Cowfish (*Lactophrys tricornis*). Mr. J. A. Fisher of Sayville secured a small individual of this species near Fire Island Beach, Great South Bay (No. 7301, Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.) about November 1, 1919. This is an addition to the local list.

Silver Hake (*Merluccius bilinearis*). Resident in small numbers, abundant in late fall and spring, uncommon in summer.

Cod (*Gadus callarias*). September 28, 1919 (N. Y. Sun of Sept. 30) is an early date for fall arrival of this species, which occurs occasionally and irregularly, usually small individuals, during the summer.

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A NOTE ON THE CALIFORNIA SPECIES of *Osmerus*.

Contrary to the statement of Miss Fisk, the development of a single tooth at the tip of the tongue is not a diagnostic feature of *Osmerus attenuatus*¹, for it is also developed in *O. thaleichthys* and in specimens at hand of *O. starksi*. There exists, however, an important difference in dentition, characteristic of *attenuatus*: in this species there is developed a moderate vomerine canine, often flanked on one side by a smaller tooth, and rather widely separated from the palatine teeth, of which the anteriormost is frequently enlarged to form a canine like that of the vomer. These features technically exclude *attenuatus* from the nominal genus *Spirinchus*, to which group it appears, nevertheless, to belong. *Spirinchus* (and *Eperlanio*) do not seem to the writer worthy of recognition, at least not as genera distinct from *Osmerus*.

Specimens corresponding in most respects with the original account of *Osmerus starksi*, a species lately described by Miss Fisk², are of not infrequent, though perhaps never abundant occurrence in the San Fran-

¹Lockington, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 3, 1880, p. 66; Jordan and Evermann. Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus. 47, 1896, p. 523; Fisk, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 46, 1913, p. 294.

²Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 46, 1913, p. 293, text fig.

cisco markets, being mixed in with larger lots of *O. thaleichthys* and *attenuatus*. In specimens at hand, however, the dentition does not conform closely to that indicated in the type-description: a single tooth is developed at the tip of the tongue, as in *attenuatus*; the teeth of the jaws are not stronger than in the other Californian species; the vomerine and palatine teeth form a subcontinuous series as in *O. thaleichthys*. In its distinctive features *starksii* appears to be rather invariably intermediate between *thaleichthys* and *attenuatus*. All these facts suggest the possibility that *starksii* may be a nominal species based on hybrids.

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A PREOCCUPIED NAME IN *Hyla*.

In 1912 I described a *Hyla monticola* (Mem. M. C. Z., 40, 1912, p. 127, pl. 1, fig. 2) from Washan in Szechuan, a mountain near the Tibetan frontier. I notice now that Cope (Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., N. S., 8, 1875, (1876), p. 106) made use of the name *monticola* for a so-called subspecies of *Hyla punctatula* Peters from Costa Rica. As this name may in time be forced into use as a full specific designation, it is necessary to rename the Chinese form. It may, therefore, be called *Hyla bambusicola*.

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AN EARLY RECORD FOR THE OVIPOSITION AND HATCHING OF THE MILK SNAKE.

During the night of July first a milk snake, *Lampropeltis triangulum triangulum* (Lacepede), donated to the American Museum by Mr. R. Blaschke, laid eleven eggs. The snake which had been recently secured at Cold Spring-on-Hudson was confined during the day in an ordinary wooden cage and on the morn-